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ABSTRACT

This document presents an annotated bibliography of instructional materials that deal with subjects relating to holidays. Topics include Christmas, Earth Day, Easter, Halloween, Hannukah, Independence Day, Martin Luther King Day, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day, and "More than One Holiday." Works cited include illustrated stories, poems, songs, and other items. A directory provides the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of publishers and producers of the works cited. (LBG)

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ADVISORY LIST

INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA

HOLIDAYS

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ADVISORY List

INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA
HOLIDAYS

LINKING RESOURCES WITH NORTH CAROLINA CURRICULUM • JULY 1992

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CHRISTMAS

Allan, Nicholas. *Jesus' Christmas Party*. Illustrated by the author. unp. $9.99. Random, 1992. (ISBN 0-679-82688-2) Grades PreK-5

Allan's spare line and watercolor illustrations are playful, expressive complements to his version of the Nativity story, which is told from the innkeeper's perspective. All the poor man wants is "a good night's sleep," but what with constant interruptions, including trips up and down an enormous flight of stairs to answer numerous knocks at the door (by Mary and Joseph, shepherds, Wise Men, etc.), the exasperated innkeeper gets little rest on this Night of Nights. A funny, decidedly untraditional retelling that is full of the joy and celebration associated with Jesus's birth.

Anastasio, Dina, retel. *Joy to the World! The Story of Christmas. (All Aboard Books Series)* Illustrated by Bettina Paterson. unp. $7.99. Platt & Munk, 1992. (Available from Putnam) (ISBN 0-448-40480-X) PreK-3

Paterson's charming torn-paper collages are the highlight of this simple retelling of the Nativity story. The text concludes with music and lyrics for one verse of "Joy to the World". An inviting read-aloud to share at Christmas.

Bible. *The Story of Christmas*. Illustrated by Jane Ray. unp. $15.95. Dutton, 1991. (ISBN 0-525-44768-7) Grades PreK-12

This breathtaking rendering of the Nativity story uses narration from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke in the Authorized King James Version of the Bible. Ray's distinctive folk-style paintings are presented as double-page murals, vignettes in framed arches, and thematically related strips across the bottoms of pages. Lush and vibrant colors are combined with joyous figures and decorative borders, creating a powerful, historically accurate visualization of the Middle East and its people during that time. Selectors should note that Ray clearly depicts Mary breast-feeding her newborn. This reverent resource can also supplement social studies, visual arts, and world cultures lessons. ID MC (An ALA Notable Book)

Breathed, Berkeley. *A Wish for Wings That Work: An Opus Christmas Story*. Illustrated by the author. unp. $14.95. Little, 1991. (ISBN 0-316-10758-1) Grades K-6

Breathed's winning, childlike penguin character has one thing on his list to Santa--"wings that will go!" Young listeners will be charmed by the story's positive message emphasizing what Opus can do with the wings he has, while older readers will be drawn to the visual fun in Breathed's illustrations. Amusing, sophisticated details in the full-page paintings and smaller black-and-white cartoons, such as a copy of *Jonathan Livingston Seagull* on Opus's bed and a movie poster for *A Wing and a Prayer* , add chuckles to this seasonal read-aloud.

Catalanotto, Peter. *Christmas Always...* Illustrated by the author. unp. $14.99. Orchard Bks., 1991. (ISBN 0-531-08546-5) Grades PreK-2

Complaining that she'll "never get to stay up with everyone," Katie is tucked into bed on Christmas Eve by her Grandfather. As she listens to the partying adults, she is surprised and delighted by three magical visitors--the Sandman, Jack Frost, and the Tooth Fairy--who quickly disappear when Santa arrives. Combining almost photographic accuracy with imaginative elaboration, Catalanotto's charming watercolors in double-page spreads bring this fantasy to life, beautifully capturing a little girl's wonder and excitement.

Compton, Kenn. *Happy Christmas to All!* Illustrated by the author. unp. $14.95. Holiday, 1991. (ISBN 0-8234-0890-6) Grades PreK-2

In comic strip fashion, Compton presents an amusing story about the surprise Santa gets when he arrives home after delivering presents on Christmas Eve. A brief text appears in easy-to-read conversation balloons, which supplement clever ink and watercolor illustrations depicting an unobservant Santa who fails to see elves hiding everywhere. Beginning readers will delight in finding all the elves and predicting the story's conclusion.

Czernecki, Stefan, and Timothy Rhodes. *Pancho's Pinata*. Illustrated by Stefan Czernecki. 40 p. $14.89. Hyperion Child, 1992. (Available from Little) (ISBN 1-56282-278-0) Grades K-4

Based on a Mexican folktale about the origin of the pinata, this colorful book recounts a festive Christmas Eve on which a young boy named Pancho frees a fallen star accidentally impaled on a huge cactus. Later, as an old man reflecting on his memory of the "wondrous gift" given him by the grateful luminary, Pancho creates a colorful star-shaped pinata filled with gifts for the village children. Inspired by Diego Rivera's mural *La Pinata and Procession*, Czernecki's stylized folk paintings feature bold colors, decorative borders, and details of the Christmas Eve posada in Mexico. MC

de Brebeuf, Father Jean. *The Huron Carol.* Translated by J. E. Middleton. Illustrated by Frances Tyrrell. unp. $15.00. Dutton, 1992. (ISBN 0-525-44909-4) Grades 2-5

Majestic, richly detailed paintings illustrate this English version of missionary Father Jean de Brebeuf's 17th-century telling of the birth of Jesus in the setting of a Huron Indian village. Tyrrell's handsome illustrations feature color paintings in arch-shaped windows set on a background of blue-toned drawings, motifs from which appear on facing pages around the text. Paintings incorporate such authentic features as constellations from a December sky of 1648, ceremonial dress for the three visiting "chiefs from far" (representing the Kootenay, Sioux, and Shawnee peoples), and Huron longhouses. Augmenting the text are useful background information and a musical arrangement of the carol with verses in English, 18th-century French, and the old Huron language. Highly recommended for studying American Indians, comparing celebrations in different cultures, and integrating arts into social studies. MC ID

Delton, Judy. *The Perfect Christmas Gift.* Illustrated by Lisa McCue. unp. $13.95. Macmillan, 1992. (ISBN 0-02-728471-9) Grades K-3

A story about friendship, gift giving, and the spirit of Christmas. Bear is upset because all of his efforts to surprise his friend Duck with just the right gift are spoiled until Rabbit points out that gifts alone are not what Christmas is all about. A colorful, appealing selection with a clear message and easy-to-read text.

dePaola, Tomie. *Jingle the Christmas Clown.* Illustrated by the author. unp. $15.95. Putnam, 1992. (ISBN 0-399-22338-X) Grades PreK-3

"Still too young and small to perform," Jingle the Clown takes care of the baby animals with the traveling circus Il Circo Piccolo. When the troupe arrives at the village where they traditionally perform on Christmas Eve, they find that most of the shops are closed and families have left. Only the "old-timers" remain, and they are too poor to celebrate the holiday. Tomie dePaola's subdued colors capture an Italian countryside in need of Christmas cheer. Sprinkled throughout his narrative are a number of Italian words, and the text concludes with an authentic recipe for "Stelline d'Oro," a golden star-shaped cookie which reinforces an important image in the story. A quiet, charming tale which highlights the special bond between the young and the old, especially during the holidays. ID

***Diane Goode's Christmas Magic: Poems and Carols.* Illustrated by Diane Goode. unp. $5.99. Random, 1992. (ISBN 0-679-92427-2) Grades K-5**

Twenty-five traditional and modern poems and songs celebrate Christmas in this warm and cheery collection. Goode's expressive illustrations are peopled with culturally diverse characters who enliven verses by Langston Hughes, Bobbi Katz, Countee Cullen, Sir Walter Scott, and Dee Lillegard. For shared reading and browsing.

Edens, Cooper. *Santa Cows.* Illustrated by Daniel Lane. unp. $14.00. S&S, 1991. (ISBN 0-671-74863-7) Grades K-5

This delightfully daffy parody of Clement Moore's *The Night Before Christmas* introduces some new members of Santa's flying menagerie--eight cows, complete with Santa hats and red bows on their tails. Christmas will never be the same for one unsuspecting family, who are greeted at their window by the sight of "a sky full of udders." Older readers will pore over Daniel Lane's detail-filled ink and watercolor illustrations, which feature amusing particulars like a TV Guide cover story on "Best Bets in Reruns." Should spark some great artwork and creative writing. ID

***The First Noel.* Illustrated by Jody Wheeler. unp. $13.95. Ideals, 1992. (ISBN 0-8249-8565-6) Grades K-5**

Wheeler's fluid watercolors beautifully depict the Nativity story as it is told in the lyrics of this classic carol. Single and double-page spreads contain familiar and less familiar verses, which are repeated at book's end along with musical accompaniment and background information. A nice visual complement for singing the carol. ID

Galbraith, Kathryn O. *Roommates and Rachel.* Illustrated by Mark Graham. 42 p. $11.95. McElderry Bks., 1991. (Available from Macmillan) (ISBN 0-689-50520-5) Grades 1-3

A warm and loving holiday story about two older sisters adjusting to a new baby during the hustle and bustle of Christmas. Very young readers will appreciate both the family problems and the heartwarming resolution of this brief tale. Mark Graham's lovely, soft pencil drawings add further warmth to this sensitive story, which has large print and short chapters, making this book easily accessible to primary students moving beyond picture books.

Heath, Amy. *Sofie's Role.* Illustrated by Sheila Hamanaka. unp. $14.95. Four Winds, 1992. (Available from Macmillan) (ISBN 0-02-743505-9) Grades PreK-3

Broadway Pastries is an appropriate name for young Sofie's family's bakery. Their preparations on the day before Christmas invite comparison with the opening of a theatrical show, and Sofie's mother refers to the girl's first year helping out as her "big debut." Hamanaka's delicious oil paintings of the ethnically diverse family and employees enrich the exuberant, sound-filled text, which highlights words like "slap" and "galumping" by printing them in different colors. With its striking visuals and positive message emphasizing the joys of helping, this delightful read-aloud could preface discussion of ways children can participate in celebrating this or any holiday. MC

Hol, Coby. *Tippy Bear's Christmas.* Illustrated by the author. unp. $11.88. North-South Bks., 1992. (ISBN 1-55858-157-X) Grades PreK-1

Cut cloth and paper collages featuring an appealing collection of brown paper animals characterize this European import. Tippy is a resourceful, industrious little bear who busies himself with Christmas baking and decorating while his parents are away. The limited detail of Hol's illustrations and the gentleness of its narrative make this selection especially appropriate for preschool story times.

Hyman, Trina Schart. *How Six Found Christmas.* Illustrated by the author. 28 p. $12.95. Holiday, 1991. (ISBN 0-8234-0914-7) Grades 2-5

A welcome reissue of an out-of-print title, this lovely, lightweight holiday fantasy is the story of a little girl's search for Christmas through the Great Snow Forest of the North. Beautifully enhanced by Hyman's charming drawings, the book is useful for group exploration of the sensory images of the holiday, possible tie-ins to creative writing activities, and independent reading.

Joseph, Lynn. *An Island Christmas.* Illustrated by Catherine Stock. unp. $14.95. Clarion Bks., 1992. (ISBN 0-395-58761-1) Grades K-5

Joseph employs the lyrical colloquial speech of Trinidad and Tobago to enhance her poetic narrative about Christmas in the West Indies. Catherine Stock's evocative watercolors beautifully depict the island home of young Rosie and her family, whose preparations for the big day include picking sorrel fruit, baking currant cakes, and listening to the music of the parang band. A concluding note adds background information. Oral readers comfortable with dialect patterns can make this story sparkle. MC

Kellogg, Steven. *The Christmas Witch.* Illustrated by the author. unp. $15.00. Dial Bks. Young, 1992. (ISBN 0-8037-1269-3) Grades K-3

Although Gloria proves to be a washout at nasty Madame Pestilence's Academy for Young Goblins and Witches, she is determined to succeed at her magical new career--being a Christmas witch. But first she must end the feud between the Valdoons and Pepperwills as well as foil Madame Pestilence's plot to keep the war going. Kellogg's characteristically detailed illustrations evoke a merry mix of ghoulish humor and the joys of Christmas.

Kennedy, Pamela. *A Christmas Celebration: Traditions and Customs from Around the World.* 32 p. $12.00. Ideals, 1992. (ISBN 0-8249-8587-7) Grades 2-5

In clear, easy-to-read prose, Kennedy traces the traditions and customs of the Christmas season back to pre-Christian observances and explores how the holiday is celebrated in various countries. Chapters focus on such topics as the name "Christmas," important symbols (e.g., the tree, poinsettia, candles), and dates other than December 25th associated with the holiday. F. Lynne Bachleda has added a variety of reproductions and photographs to augment the text. For reports, discussion, and personal interest. An index helps users locate traditions of individual countries.

Kennedy, X. J. *The Beasts of Bethlehem.* Illustrated by Michael McCurdy. 39 p. $13.95. McElderry Bks., 1992. (Available from Macmillan) (ISBN 0-689-50561-2) Grades 1-6

From ant and earthworm to hawk and donkey, the nineteen animals given voice and visage in this collection of poems are those that might have been present at Jesus's birth. Drawing on the legend that animals could speak on Christmas Eve, Kennedy has crafted rhyming and reverent monologues for these Bethlehem beasts. Hints of each animal's nature as revealed in the poems are cleverly echoed in McCurdy's superb, full-color, scratchboard renderings. A lively resource to inspire student writing and artwork.

Kline, Suzy. *Horrible Harry and the Christmas Surprise.* Illustrated by Frank Remkiewicz. 55 p. $10.95. Viking, 1991. (ISBN 0-670-83357-6) Grades 1-3

Great fun for beginning readers of chapter books, this latest in the hilarious series featuring the misadventures of second grader Horrible Harry finds the children in Room 2B getting ready for their Mother Goose skit in the school Christmas program. The day before the presentation, their teacher Miss Mackle has an accident, and Principal Cardini has to step in, not only as substitute teacher, but also as Mother Goose. A fine and funny school and holiday story, the book is written from a child's perspective and complemented by black-and-white line drawings which realistically capture the thoughts, feelings, and humor of this age group.

Leighton, Maxinne Rhea. *An Ellis Island Christmas.* Illustrated by Dennis Nolan. 32 p. $15.00. Viking, 1992. (ISBN 0-670-83182-4) Grades 2-5

A bittersweet story about a family's emigration to America from Poland. Young Krysia, her mother, and brothers Tomek and Josef arrive at Ellis Island on Christmas Eve, are processed through, and wait for Papa to come take the family to their new home in Brooklyn. Nolan's luminous paintings enrich Leighton's descriptive narrative, adding visual details to emphasize the hardships and hopefulness of the immigrant experience. A concluding note provides background information for the story. Good for social studies units on immigration, different cultures, and U.S. history. ID MC

McDonald, Megan. *The Potato Man.* Illustrated by Ted Lewin. unp. $14.99. Orchard Bks., 1991. (ISBN 0-531-08514-7) Grades K-3

Street vendors were commonplace when Grampa was a boy in 1920's America, but none was as mysterious or misunderstood as Mr. Angelo, the one-eyed "Potato Man." Whenever this fruit and vegetable huckster was around, it was a sign of luck for Grampa and his friend Otto--bad luck, that is. Then, on a snowy day just before Christmas, the youthful Grampa learns the value of tolerance, doing the right thing, and "good will toward men." Lewin's detailed, evocative watercolors recreate a child's-eye view of life in this period of America's history with warmth and humor. ID

Moore, Clement C. *The Grandma Moses Night Before Christmas*. Illustrated by Grandma Moses. unp. $15.99. Random, 1991. (ISBN 0-679-91526-5) Grades PreK-12

This reissue of a 1962 classic adds a few new paintings to illustrate Moore's Christmas poem. Grandma Moses's engaging primitive artwork has been enhanced by new production techniques, enriching the book's usefulness as a supplement for visual arts classes as well as for reading aloud. **ID**

Neville, Mary. *The Christmas Tree Ride*. Illustrated by Megan Lloyd. unp. $14.95. Holiday, 1992. (ISBN 0-8234-0956-2) PreK-3

A child's excitement at Christmas is warmly captured in this first-person account of the time a little girl, her father, and her brother go to a local tree farm to select a Christmas tree. The family outing offers opportunities for winter sightseeing and frolicking in the snow; it climaxes with a wild ride backwards down a mountain. Afterwards, the kindly widower who owns the tree farm is invited to share their Christmas dinner. Lloyd's realistic watercolors depict hardworking mountain folk with strong, expressive faces. A heartwarming read-aloud which could preface discussion of the joys of sharing, especially with those who may be alone and lonely during the holidays.

Nixon, Joan Lowery. *That's the Spirit, Claude*. Illustrated by Tracey Campbell Pearson. 32 p. $13.00. Viking, 1992. (ISBN 0-670-83434-3) Grades 1-4

Written in a wonderful, down-home Texas style, this funny Christmas story features Nixon's amusing pioneer couple Shirley and Claude. When the good-hearted twosome try to fulfill their adopted children's dream of a visit from "Sandy Claus," they do not plan on the unexpected arrival of Santa himself. Lighthearted watercolors by Tracey Campbell Pearson augment Nixon's colorful storytelling with some clever details, such as Claude's being a dead ringer for Santa Claus and a pet armadillo who appears to be uncharacteristically cuddly.

Proysen, Alf. *Christmas Eve at Santa's*. Translated from Swedish by Richard E. Fisher. Illustrated by Jens Ahlbom. unp. $13.00. R&S Bks., 1992. (Available from FS&G) (ISBN 91-29-62066-X) Grades PreK-3

In this translation of a 1971 title, Carpenter Anderson bumps into Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, and the two decide to switch places, with the carpenter visiting Santa's family of elves. In a delightful twist, the carpenter finds out that he is idolized by the elf children, much as Santa is by Anderson's own. Ahlbom's amusing watercolors provide numerous details of Swedish culture and the carpenter's artistry. A good book to compare with Nixon's *That's the Spirit, Claude* (also reviewed on this list) and to use in discussing the ways the holiday is celebrated in different cultures.

Quindlen, Anna. *The Tree That Came to Stay*. Illustrated by Nancy Carpenter. unp. $13.99. Crown, 1992. (ISBN 0-517-58146-9) Grades PreK-4

Soft pastel illustrations grace this sweet, affecting story about a young family's efforts to hold on to the feeling of Christmas. Bud, Woo, and Bubba the baby search the tree farm for the perfect Scotch pine to decorate. The tree, with its pungent aroma, becomes an integral part of the family's celebration, and Mom has a clever idea for preserving it and Christmas, too, into the new year. A finely crafted narrative that lovingly considers children's feelings and their excitement about the holiday.

Roth, Susan L. *Another Christmas*. Illustrated by the author. unp. $14.93. Morrow, 1992. (ISBN 0-688-09943-2) Grades K-3

Roth's striking, cut-paper collages brighten this sweet story about a young boy and his family dealing with the Christmas holiday following the death of his beloved grandfather. In hopes of easing the sadness, the family travels to Puerto Rico to celebrate the season. Grandma surprises and comforts everyone by blending family tradition with new experiences. After reading this title, students could discuss similarities and differences in the ways in which Christmas is celebrated in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. **ID**

Smith, Janice Lee. *There's a Ghost in the Coatroom: Adam Joshua's Christmas*. Illustrated by Dick Gackenbach. 86 p. $12.89. HarperCollins, 1991. (ISBN 0-06-022864-4) Grades 1-4

Irrepressible Adam Joshua and his friends in Mrs. D.'s class are busily making plans for a medieval Christmas feast, complete with costumes, knights, a king and queen, and other pageantry. Adding to the excitement is the discovery of a mysterious ghost in the coatroom who seems to know everything about the young revelers, including information that might not go over well with Santa Claus. Heightening the fun of Smith's narrative are Gackenbach's comical, black-and-white illustrations. Another great chapter book for newly independent readers.

***The Twelve Days of Christmas*. Illustrated by Dorothee Duntze. unp. $14.95. North-South Bks., 1992. (ISBN 1-55858-152-9) Grades K-5**

Exquisite and intricately detailed watercolors distinguish this version of the classic Christmas carol about twelve days of unusual gifts. Readers will linger long over these pages, delighting in such special touches as a partridge dressed in formal hat and coat with an acorn and oak leaf boutonniere, or the elegantly gloved hands wearing five different gold rings and ten tiny birds perched on the fingertips. Verses are linked by repetition, and each new illustration is embellished with variations (creative and surreal) of previously presented characters or concepts. Good for arts education and for inspiring children to illustrate their own favorite carols.

Wetzel, JoAnne Stewart. *The Christmas Box*. Illustrated by Barry Root. unp. $13.99. Knopf, 1992. (Available from Random) (ISBN 0-679-91789-6) Grades PreK-3

Based on a true story, this heartwarming title recounts a family's separation at Christmas and the importance of a wooden box filled with memorabilia, which two children and their mother receive from the absent father stationed in Japan during the holiday. Barry Root's paintings evoke nostalgic scenes of an American family preparing to

celebrate Christmas in 1952, with glass ornaments, holiday baking, and snow-flecked shop windows. A good resource for comparing celebrations and lifestyles of today and yesterday. **ID**

Yolen, Jane, sel. ***Hark! A Christmas Sampler.*** **Illustrated by Tomie dePaola. Original music and arrangements by Adam Stemple. 128 p. $19.95. Putnam, 1991. (ISBN 0-399-21853-X) Grades K-5**

Enriched by Tomie de Paola's imaginative borders and illustrations, this joyous collection of songs, poems, and stories celebrates Christmas. Readers are treated to adaptations of traditional tales from different countries as well as background information on various aspects of the holiday (e.g., customs, food, Santa Claus). For browsing and reading aloud. **MC ID**

EARTH DAY

Gardner, Robert. ***Celebrating Earth Day: A Sourcebook of Activities and Experiments.*** **Illustrated by Sharon Lane Holm. 96 p. $15.90. Millbrook Pr., 1992. (ISBN 1-56294-070-8) Grades 5-8**

Chapters in this useful resource describe the history of Earth Day and outline a variety of experiments and projects which address garbage, recycling, and pollution of air and water. Clear, concise prose informs readers about problems affecting the environment as well as possible solutions. Motivating quotations are sprinkled throughout the text, which is also enhanced by black-and-white diagrams illustrating the activities. Good ideas for environmental studies. Bibliography, index.

EASTER

Auch, Mary Jane. ***The Easter Egg Farm.*** **Illustrated by the author. unp. $14.95. Holiday, 1992. (ISBN 0-8234-0917-1) Grades K-2**

A refreshingly different Easter tale, this is the story of Pauline, a hen who lays eggs that look like whatever she sees, and her owner, the hilarious and eccentric Mrs. Pennywort, who accompanies the hen to the art museum and the ballet to inspire special eggs. Initially concerned because her eggs are so unusual, Pauline comes to appreciate her special talent, which she passes on to her daughters. This selection will find audiences throughout the year because Pauline is such an appealing and talented character, the plot has such interesting twists, and the cartoon-style pictures are so colorfully in tune with the story's theme.

Compton, Joanne. ***Little Rabbit's Easter Surprise.*** **Illustrated by Kenn Compton. unp. $14.95. Holiday, 1992. (ISBN 0-8234-0920-1) Grades PreK-1**

Little Rabbit wants to help his father decorate and hide Easter eggs, but his enthusiastic efforts nearly lead to disaster. A simple story with mild suspense and a little humor, the narrative describes a warm and satisfying relationship between Little Rabbit and his parents. Although the text is written in all uppercase letters, the directness of the story and its easy-to-follow pictures make it a manageable one for beginning readers.

HALLOWEEN

Ahlberg, Allan. ***Funnybones Series.*** **Illustrated by Andre Amstutz. 2 titles each unp. each $14.00. Greenwillow, 1992. Grades PreK-2**
The Ghost Train **(ISBN 0-688-11435-0).**
Skeleton Crew **(ISBN 0-688-11436-9).**

Characterized by humor, repetitive text, and cartoonlike illustrations, these beginning readers recount the comical adventures of a goofy trio of skeletons. For them, none of the monsters and ghosts they encounter while riding *The Ghost Train* one night is as scary as a crying baby. And their vacation as the *Skeleton Crew* "in a dark dark boat" is plagued by an octopus, a whale, and a gang of pirates who steal the boat. Unscary fun for reluctant and newly independent readers featuring the skeletons and ghosts so much a part of Halloween.

Cole, Joanna, and Stephanie Calmenson, sels. ***The Scary Book.*** **Illustrated by Chris Demarest, Marilyn Hirsh, Arnold Lobel, and Dirk Zimmer. 128 p. $12.95. Morrow, 1991. (ISBN 0-688-10654-4) Grades 3-6. Grades 3-6: CG 1, 3, and 4**

A delightful collection of spooky stories, poems, riddles, tricks, and tongue twisters designed to be frightfully funny. Such well-known authors as Jane Yolen, Shel Silverstein, John Ciardi, and Joanna Cole herself crafted these dreadful delights. Black-and-white illustrations are alternately wacky and spooky. First rate fun for shared and independent reading. Author, title, and artist indices.

Coombs, Patricia. ***Dorrie and the Haunted Schoolhouse.*** **Illustrated by the author. 32 p. $13.95. Clarion Bks., 1992. (ISBN 0-395-60116-9) Grades K-3**

In this latest book featuring Dorrie the little witch, she and her friends Dither and Wince are nervous about their first day of school. Problems with a mischievous ghost, a flying schoolhouse, and a missing professor, plus a disastrous attempt at making "Quick Start Broomstick Mix," seem to confirm her fears. With lively narrative, good humor, and colorful illustrations, Coombs playfully and painlessly gives young readers lessons about cooperation and asking for help when you need it.

Day, Alexandra. ***Carl's Masquerade.*** **Illustrated by the author. unp. $11.95. FS&G, 1992. (ISBN 0-374-31094-7) Grades PreK-1**

Another almost wordless fantasy about the babysitting Rottweiler. In this one, dog and baby follow the baby's parents to a masquerade party where, amazingly, the two move unnoticed among the costumed revelers. Unique and sometimes bizarre costumes (e.g., a bag of coal with bellows on his head, tuxedo-clad fish) people Day's realistic watercolors. Costumed characters and festive activities provide rich opportunities for vocabulary-building

conversation. An imaginative resource for exploring the fine line between reality and make-believe.

Enderle, Judith Ross, and Stephanie Gordon Tessler. *Six Creepy Sheep.* Illustrated by John O'Brien. unp. $12.95. Boyds Mills Press, 1992. (ISBN 1-56397-092-9) Grades PreK-1

Alliteration, rhyme, clever wordplay, and counting characterize this narrative about six sheep who dress as ghosts for Halloween trick-or-treating. Frightened by encounters with such groups as "a flock of fairies" and "a warren of witches," the sheeps' number is progressively reduced by one until a lone sheep arrives at a barn filled with partying animals in costume, including geese, rabbits, and, of course, the other five sheep. Ink and watercolor illustrations by John O'Brien provide suitably spooky enhancements for this lively read-aloud. ID

Heide, Florence Parry. *Grim and Ghastly Goings-on.* Illustrated by Victoria Chess. unp. $13.93. Lothrop, 1992. (ISBN 0-688-08322-6) Grades 4-6

Along with the traditional warty, fanged, gruesome monsters which children are accustomed to reading about, this collection of humorous and horrific poems contains several that imbue ordinary things with monstrous qualities. For example, at night rubber bands can come to life because each "used to be a worm," and that "oozy," "wiggly" spinach sitting on your dinner plate is really sizing you up for its next meal. Chess's intricate illustrations filled with round-eyed characters are humorous matches for Heide's imaginative verses. Clever and inspiring models for student writing. Also a superb choice for seasonal readers' theatre.

Katz, Bobbi, sel. *Ghosts and Goose Bumps: Poems to Chill Your Bones.* Illustrated by Deborah Kogan Ray. unp. $5.99. Random, 1991. (ISBN 0-679-90372-0) Grades 4-6

Imaginative poems on scary topics, including ghosts, witches, monsters, and skeletons, are featured in this collection by English and American poets. In addition to traditional verses, the work of Katz, Lilian Moore, Margaret Mahy, Jack Prelutzky, and William Shakespeare are complemented by playful as well as eerie watercolor and colored pencil renderings. Selectors should note that some poems contain vivid imagery or mention of magic, undertakers, and the devil. The attractive cover with children trick-or-treating and the title's picture book format may mislead younger visitors to the library. But for older students, the material is high-interest and high quality.

Littlewood, Valerie. *Scarecrow!* Illustrated by the author. 29 p. $15.00. Dutton, 1992. (ISBN 0-525-44948-5) Grades 2-6

Littlewood's pen-and-ink illustrations and dramatic watercolors are superb complements for this informative history of the scarecrow. Double-page spreads focus on types of scarecrows (e.g., human, animal, streamers, and flags), myths and lore associated with them, famous scarecrows, and directions for making one. An easy-to-read reference for reports and projects.

McDonald, Megan. *The Great Pumpkin Switch.* Illustrated by Ted Lewin. unp. $14.99. Orchard Bks., 1992. (ISBN 0-531-08600-3) Grades K-3

In this amusing sequel to *The Potato Man* (reviewed elsewhere on this list), Grampa tells his grandchildren another story from his childhood. This one's about how he and his friend Otto accidentally smashed the pumpkin his sister Rosie was growing for the Sunflower Girls club. Luckily for them, Mr. Angelo, the Potato Man, just happens to have a replacement on his wagon nearby. Warm and witty, this selection contains sumptuous visuals which provide young listeners with a lively portrait of an American autumn in the 1920's. ID

Maestro, Giulio. *More Halloween Howls: Riddles That Come Back to Haunt You.* Illustrated by the author. unp. $12.00 Dutton, 1992. (ISBN 525-44899-3) Grades K-5

A sequel to *Halloween Howls*, this collection of "haunting" riddles includes some clever Halloween wordplay, like "What do fangs do to french fries? Turn them into gnashed potatoes." Maestro's colorful, action-filled illustrations heighten the fun of this amusing selection.

Ross, Pat. *M & M and the Halloween Monster.* Illustrated by Marilyn Hafner. 43 p. $10.95. Viking, 1991. (ISBN 0-670-83003-8) Grades 1-4

Continuing her series of easy-to-read chapter books designed for newly independent readers, Ross serves up some Halloween chills for Mandy and Mimi, a couple of close friends. The two appealing characters allow their imaginations to run wild when clanking chains, drops of red "blood," and a hulking shadow lead them to believe that a monster has taken up residence in the basement of their apartment building. The many black-and-white pencil illustrations add humorous details to Ross's inviting narrative.

Schwartz, Alvin, retel. *Ghosts! Ghostly Tales from Folklore. (An I Can Read Book)* Illustrated by Victoria Chess. 63 p. $11.89. HarperCollins, 1991. (ISBN 0-06-021797-9) Grades 2-4

Seven spooky stories based on folklore (mostly English and American) featuring ghosts. Schwartz concludes his easy-to-read collection with a brief description of "Where the Stories Come From." Although Chess's characteristic drawings contain more chuckles than chills, the stories themselves are not without horrific happenings, especially "The Little Green Bottle," in which young Joe is plagued by the vengeful ghost of a fellow schoolmate. A high-interest beginning book to tempt reluctant readers.

Schwartz, Alvin, retel. *Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your Bones.* Illustrated by Stephen Gammell. 115 p. $13.89. Harper Collins, 1991. (ISBN 0-06-021795-2) Grades 4-8

Folklorist Alvin Schwartz has assembled yet another of his popular anthologies of scary stories. Well crafted and easy to read, these twenty-five brief tales have their gruesome origins in folktales from countries around the world. Liberally illustrated by Gammell's grotesque black-and-white drawings, the stories are followed by extensive notes on sources and a bibliography of books and articles. Sure to find an audience among older readers, this well-researched title contains stories about things which have fascinated and

frightened people for centuries (e.g., ghosts, poltergeists, witches, the supernatural). A useful resource for enlivening storytelling, student writing, and independent reading. MC

Silverman, Erica. *Big Pumpkin.* Illustrated by S. D. Schindler. unp. $14.95. Macmillan, 1992. (ISBN 0-02-782683-X) Grades PreK-2

This cumulative story about sharing and cooperation is reminiscent of the Russian folktale "The Turnip." Characterized by repetitive language, Silverman's narrative tells how first a witch, then a ghost, a vampire, a mummy, and a bat struggle to pick an enormous pumpkin off its vine to make pumpkin pie. Schindler's vivid watercolors are more comical than spooky. An amusing Halloween read-aloud or act-it-out which reinforces positive social skills.

Standiford, Natalie, adapt. *The Headless Horseman. (Step into Reading Series, A Step 2 Book)* Illustrated by Donald Cook. 48 p. $7.99. Random, 1992. (ISBN 0-679-91241-X) Grades 1-3

Based on Washington Irving's classic story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," this selection aimed at beginning readers features large type, repetitive language, and accessible vocabulary. Cook's expressive illustrations colorfully evoke the Hudson Valley landscape in autumn and exemplify eighteenth-century styles in clothing and architecture. The headless horseman is appropriately dark and dramatic, but not ghastly. Touches of humor lighten the story for young readers (e.g., Ichabod's horse is as wide-eyed as he is). A lively introduction to an early American legend. ID

Van Leeuwen, Jean. *Oliver and Amanda's Halloween.* Illustrated by Ann Schweninger. 48 p. $9.89. Dial Bks. Young, 1992. (ISBN 0-8037-1238-3) Grades K-3

Continuing the series charting the adventures of Amanda and Oliver Pig, this beginning chapter book focuses on the two characters' preparations for Halloween. Making costumes, carving pumpkins, and baking treats are all part of the fun described in this gentle story. Colorful illustrations enliven the easy-to-read text. Good for newly independent readers.

Watson, Wendy. *Boo! It's Halloween.* Illustrated by the author. unp. $14.95. Clarion Bks., 1992. (ISBN 0-395-53628-6) Grades PreK-2

Featuring the charming New England village Watson created for earlier books in this holiday series, this title focuses on a family's celebration of Halloween. The conversational, first-person narrative is further enlivened by jokes and riddles interspersed throughout the busy, people-filled illustrations. Familiar activities associated with the holiday, such as making costumes, trick-or-treating, and visiting a haunted house at school, are depicted. An unscary read-aloud which also demonstrates seasonal change.

Wilsdorf, Anne. *Philomene.* Illustrated by the author. unp. $13.93. Greenwillow, 1992. (ISBN 0-688-10370-7) Grades K-2

With a nod to *Hansel and Gretel* and *Beauty and the Beast*, this English translation of a French import features a clever, sensible heroine who does not believe in witches and proceeds to the deep, dark forest to prove she is right. However, an evil witch does appear and whisks young Philomene off to her castle, where the resourceful girl must outwit her captor with the aid of contents from her red pocketbook (you never know when you might need bandaids and ointment or a bone) and a gigantic bat. Wilsdorf's amusing ink and watercolor illustrations provide appropriately spooky details for this read-aloud about witches, magic spells, and kindness rewarded.

Wojciechowski, Susan. *The Best Halloween of All.* Illustrated by Susan Meddaugh. unp. $10.95. Crown, 1992. (ISBN 0-517-57835-2) Grades 1-3

Anyone who has ever suffered through the agonies of having to wear an elaborate, parent-created Halloween costume will love the wry humor of this tale. Susan Meddaugh's colorful illustrations (many of them "snapshots") depict the young narrator's trials dressed as a rabbit to his older brother's magician and as a wedge of Swiss cheese to his brother's mouse, among others. Wojciechowski crafts a very satisfying conclusion which extols the power of imagination to transform the simplest of items (here a grocery bag and some paper towel rolls) into the best costume of all.

Wyllie, Stephen. *Ghost Train: A Spooky Hologram Book.* Illustrated by Brian Lee. unp. $18.00 Dial Bks. Young, 1992. (ISBN 0-8037-1163-8) Grades 2-5

Headless Hector, the Gray Lady, and the Silver Skeleton are out of a job when the castle they have haunted for 400 years is deserted and falls into disrepair. While searching for a new home, the ghostly trio encounters an amusement park with a "ghost train" ride, which they proceed to inhabit. Striking, sometimes startling holograms of the three ghosts enliven Lee's highly detailed, evocative illustrations. Strong visuals and breezy, first-person narration make this title spooky fun for small group sharing and individual reading. ID

Young, Richard and Judy Dockrey, sels. *Favorite Scary Stories of American Children.* 110 p. $19.95. August House, 1991. (ISBN 0-87483-120-2) Grades K-6

_____. *Favorite Scary Stories of American Children: For Grades K-3* and *For Grades 4-6.* 2 audiocassettes each 60 min. each $9.95. August Hse., 1991. Grades K-6

Teachers and media coordinators looking for brief (1 to 4 pages), scary stories to share with students will find these multicultural resources good additions to their professional storytelling libraries. The book contains the twenty-three tales recorded on the cassettes and provides designations for age appropriateness based on how "content--the themes, conflicts, and 'fearfulness'--matches with the emotional development of children." An Afterword provides helpful hints on storytelling and cautionary comments about scary stories. Concluding notes acknowledge origins for the stories (e.g., Appalachia, Norway, Cambodia, Chinook Indians), and a pronunciation guide contains phonetic spellings and definitions. Performed by the Youngs, the audiocassettes are

energetic, expressive narrations of the book's text enhanced by occasional organ music at key moments. When using these resources either separately or together, adults would be wise to remember the Youngs' advice: "The conscientious parent, teacher, or librarian will always need to know a great deal about the story-listening audience," and "children are a better judge of what frightens them than adults are." MC

Ziefert, Harriet. *Halloween Parade. (Hello Reading Series)* Illustrated by Lillie James. unp. $9.00. Viking, 1992. (ISBN 0-670-84568-X) Grades PreK-1

Characterized by repetition and bright cartoon-style illustrations, this inviting picture book presents the Halloween activities experienced by a little girl and her friends. Decorations, costumes, jack-o-lanterns, and a school celebration are highlights of this selection, which should be especially pleasing to excited new readers.

HANUKKAH

Jaffe, Nina. *In the Month of Kislev: A Story for Hanukkah.* Illustrated by Louise August. 32 p. $15.00. Viking, 1992. (ISBN 0-670-82863-7) Grades 2-6

August's richly textured woodcuts create an outstanding backdrop for this Hanukkah story set in a Polish village. For her vivid narrative, Jaffe draws on the Jewish oral tradition of stories that teach. When the hungry daughters of poor Mendel the peddler are discovered smelling the latkes baking in the kitchen of the rich merchant Feivel, the wealthy man is enraged and drags the poor family before the village rabbi, demanding payment for the "theft." Jaffe concludes her wise, heartwarming tale with interesting information on the history and customs associated with the celebration. MC

Katz, Bobbi. *A Family Hanukkah.* Illustrated by Caryl Herzfeld. unp. $7.99. Random, 1992. (ISBN 0-679-83240-8) Grades PreK-3

Enriched by Herzfeld's warm, oil-on-canvas style paintings, this selection describes two children's experiences on the first night of Hanukkah. Rachel and Jonathan buy and make gifts for their family, spend the first night of Hanukkah at their grandparents' house observing traditions (eating latkes, lighting the menorah, spinning the dreidel), and listen to their Grandpa's story recounting the miracle of the oil. A lovely read-aloud or read-alone. Poor binding. MC

Weiss, Nicki. *The First Night of Hanukkah. (All Aboard Reading Series)* Illustrated by the author. 48 p. $7.99. Grosset & Dunlap, 1992. (Available from Putnam) (ISBN 0-448-40389-7) Grades 1-3

Simply and accurately, this title explains the history behind the lighting of the menorah on the first night of Hannukah. As part of her family's traditions, young Molly hears from her Uncle Dan the heroic story of Mattathias, his son Judah Maccabee, and the miracle of the oil. Appealing, cartoon-style illustrations complement this easy-to-read text for beginning readers. MC

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Devlin, Wende and Harry. *Cranberry Summer.* Illustrated by Harry Devlin. unp. $13.95. Four Winds, 1992. (Available from Macmillan) (ISBN 0-02-729181-2) Grades K-4

Once again the good people of Cranberryport celebrate a holiday (the Fourth of July this time) with an adventure and a delicious recipe featuring cranberries. When Maggie and Mr. Whiskers find an abandoned donkey feeding on grouchy Mr. Grape's garden, they turn to Maggie's grandmother for an idea on how to raise money to provide a home for the animal. A satisfying read-aloud which concludes with a recipe for the cranberry punch served at the town's holiday picnic.

Graham-Barber, Lynda. *Doodle Dandy! The Complete Book of Independence Day Words.* Illustrated by Betsy Lewin. 122 p. $13.95. Bradbury Pr., 1992. (ISBN 0-02-736675-8) Grades 4-9

This accessible yet relatively thorough title offers historical information, amusing facts, legendary hearsay, and etymologies of words associated with Independence Day. From "birthday" to "fireworks," the words are arranged by topic rather than alphabetically. For student reports, vocabulary lessons, and browsing. Lighthearted black-and-white cartoons, timeline chronology, bibliography, index.

Watson, Wendy. *Hurray for the Fourth of July.* unp. $14.95. Clarion Bks., 1992. (ISBN 0-395-53627-8) Grades PreK-2

The season changes once again in Watson's New England village--this time to summer and the celebration of Independence Day. Recounting the events from a child's perspective, the conversational, first-person narrative incorporates traditional nursery rhymes and song lyrics. Illustrations in ink and watercolor show an active family and friends marching in a parade, picnicking, and watching fireworks, among other traditional activities. ID

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Livingston, Myra Cohn. *Let Freedom Ring: A Ballad of Martin Luther King, Jr.* Illustrated by Samuel Byrd. 32 p. $14.52. Holiday, 1992. (ISBN 0-8234-0957-0) Grades 3-8

Incorporating lines from Dr. King's speeches, Livingston has framed a ballad highlighting the life and ideals of Martin Luther King, Jr. Byrd's lush, dramatic paintings depict significant events (e.g., Lincoln Memorial speech, winning the Nobel Prize, his assassination) in almost full-page illustrations. A moving, poetic tribute which will enrich social studies and communication skills lessons as well as Black History Month and Martin Luther King Day celebrations. Also provides a model for a creative alternative to traditional book reports on biographies. ID MC

THANKSGIVING

Bunting, Eve. ***A Turkey for Thanksgiving.*** **Illustrated by Diane de Groat. 32 p. $13.95. Clarion Bks., 1991. Grades PreK-2**

Lighthearted and easy to read, this book relates the funny story of what happens when Mrs. Moose wants to have a real turkey for Thanksgiving, just like everyone else. Details in Diane De Groat's colorful, expressive illustrations suggest a seasonal folktale, for animal characters are garbed in peasant clothes, and furnishings in the moose cottage are definitely East European. A delightfully different read-aloud.

dePaola, Tomie. ***My First Thanksgiving.*** **Illustrated by the author. unp. $5.95. Putnam, 1992. (ISBN 0-399-22327-4) Grades PreK-K**

Like *My First Easter* and *My First Passover*, this cheery board book introduces young children to a special holiday, Thanksgiving. First pilgrims and Indians, then a contemporary family, are depicted preparing and enjoying Thanksgiving meals. Simple, basic fare with strong visual appeal and just enough detail for use with preschoolers and beginning readers.

Graham-Barber, Lynda. ***Gobble! The Complete Book of Thanksgiving Words.*** **Illustrated by Betsy Lewin. 122 p. $13.95. Bradbury Pr., 1992. (ISBN 0-02-708332-2) Grades 4-9**

From "November" to "pumpkin pie," this conversational compendium contains historical information, legends, and trivia concerning Thanksgiving, along with etymologies of words associated with the holiday. The topically arranged text is illustrated with lighthearted black-and-white cartoons. For student reports, vocabulary lessons, and browsing. Timeline chronology, bibliography, index.

Watson, Wendy. ***Thanksgiving at Our House.*** **Illustrated by the author. unp. $14.95. Clarion Bks., 1992. (ISBN 0-395-53626-X) Grades PreK-2**

This time Watson's New England family is celebrating Thanksgiving. Traditional nursery rhymes and Thanksgiving poems are woven into the conversational, first-person narrative and festive ink and watercolor illustrations. Children and adults are depicted preparing for the holiday reunion, which ends with scenes of snowflakes falling on the tiny village. Good for discussing seasonal changes, comparing family celebrations, and enriching story times. ID

VALENTINE'S DAY

Peck, Robert Newton. ***Soup in Love.*** **Illustrated by Charles Robinson. 114 p. $14.00. Delacorte, 1992. (ISBN 0-385-30563-X) Grades 4-7**

With Valentine's Day approaching, Soup Vinson has not only concocted another one of his outrageous schemes for capitalizing on the event, but has also been smitten by Texas twins with the prophetic names of Quickie and Trickie Heartburn. Best friend, unwilling partner, and narrator Rob has his own hands full orchestrating his first kiss from the lovely Norma Jean Bissell. The romantic, funny, and heartwarming goings-on will please those who enjoyed Soup's previous escapades and should attract new fans. Realistic black-and-white pencil illustrations.

Smith, Janice Lee. ***Nelson in Love: An Adam Joshua Valentine's Day Story.*** **Illustrated by Dick Gackenbach. 71 p. $11.89. HarperCollins, 1992. (ISBN 0-06-020293-9) Grades 1-4**

Both Adam Joshua's best friend Nelson and his dog and canine confidant George are in love. Complicating matters are the Secret Friends exchange at school celebrating the coming Valentine's Day and an unknown admirer, who turns out to be Heidi, the object of Nelson's affection. Smith's funny, knowing narrative captures the feelings and voices of primary students in this continuing series, ably abetted by Gackenbach's clever, cartoon-style illustrations. Good for shared and independent reading.

MORE THAN ONE HOLIDAY

Gross, Judith. ***Celebrate: A Book of Jewish Holidays. (All Aboard Books Series)*** **Illustrated by Bari Weissman. unp. $7.99. Putnam, 1992. (ISBN 0-448-40303-X) Grades K-3**

Characterized by straightforward prose and colorful illustrations, this useful book introduces young readers to the history, customs, and significance of ten Jewish holy days. A helpful feature is the inclusion of phonetic pronunciations for such words as dreidel and hamantaschen as well as the holidays themselves (e.g., **Purim, Rosh Hashanah, Tu Bishvat**). Good information for simple reports and for exploring Jewish culture. MC

Ketteman, Helen. ***Aunt Hilarity's Bustle.*** **Illustrated by James Warhola. unp. $14.00. S&S, 1992. (ISBN 0-671-77861-7) Grades K-3**

Aunt Hilarity's overwhelming desire to be fashionable is the inadvertent origin of a very funny tradition at the Willow Flats **Christmas** Ball. Determined to have a bustle, Aunt Hilarity first fashions on out of flea-riddled hay, then flammable paint rags (which catch fire during **Thanksgiving** dinner), and finally bouncy chicken wire--all with disastrous results. Warhola's hilarious illustrations depict a turn-of-the-century farming community completely undone by Hilarity's shenanigans. Great fun for readingaloud.

Kimmel, Eric. ***Days of Awe: Stories for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.*** **Illustrated by Erika Weihs. 48 p. $13.95. Viking, 1991. (ISBN 0-670-82772-X) Grades 3-6**

Adapted from very old and traditional sources (including the Talmud and *Midrash Ruth Zuta*), this trio of stories illustrates the three themes of the Jewish High Holidays: charity, prayer, and repentance. The dignity and grace of Kimmel's retellings is matched by Erika Weih's quiet and expressive paintings. An informative introduction

and concluding notes provide young readers with historical background for appreciating the significance of **Rosh Hashanah** and **Yom Kippur**. MC

Low, Alice, sel. *The Family Read-Aloud Holiday Treasury*. Illustrated by Marc Brown. 154 p. $19.95. Little, 1991. (ISBN 0-316-53368-8) Grades K-6

The songs, stories, and poems in this holiday anthology represent a variety of cultures and were written by a host of accomplished authors, such as Langston Hughes, Jack Prelutsky, Edward Lear, and Pete Seeger. The high quality selections celebrate the expected holidays as well as the unexpected (e.g., **Friendship Day, Grandparent's Day, First Day of School**). Concluding notes provide useful background information on these special occasions. An excellent addition to holiday collections. MC

***Multicultural Celebrations Series*. 12 hardcover books, 12 audiocassettes, 12 posters, 1 teacher resource book, 1 storage box. $215.00. Modern Curr., 1992. Grades K-5**

Carnival. Chinese New Year's Dragon. Dara's Cambodian New Year Fiesta! A First Passover. Imani's Gift at Kwanzaa. Korean Children's Day. Powwow. Strawberry Thanksgiving. Tet: The New Year. Three Kings' Day. Who Am I?

Titles in this twelve-book series on multicultural celebrations are accompanied by audiocassettes, teacher's guides, and colorful posters. Each book features an American child who learns more about his family heritage through celebrating a special holiday (e.g., **Passover, Vietnamese New Year, Trinidad's Carnival**). Illustrations include color photographs and paintings which enrich the text with cultural details and artistic style reflecting the country or culture depicted. Authors and illustrators typically share the ethnic heritage of the characters in the stories. For each book, a double-sided audiocassette presents background information on the narrator's culture on one side (with interactive cues) and adds authentic music and accent to a reading of the book on the other. The teacher's guide contains historical background, teaching suggestions, song lyrics, a phonetic glossary for words introduced on the tape, summary, instructions for crafts and games, and bibliography. Additional sheets containing activities and resources are included in the three-ring binder housing the tapes. A poster for each title presents an illustration taken from the book, along with an explanatory caption. Teachers will find this interdisciplinary resource particularly useful for social studies units involving these countries and cultures as well as for planning holiday celebrations throughout the year. ID MC

Wnek, Barbara. *Holiday Games and Activities*. Illustrated by Cindy Butler and Gretchen Walters. 172 p. $14.00 pap. Human Kinetics, 1992. (ISBN 0-87322-355-1)

For teachers in grades K-6, this English import divides the school year according to seasons (e.g., **Back to School, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day**) and describes a variety of physical fitness activities, games, and rhythm and dance experiences with holiday themes. For example, "Escape from the Spiders" is an obstacle course game for use at Halloween which develops body control and perceptual motor skills. Reproducible certificates and awards carry out the seasonal themes and encourage participation. Descriptions include diagrams, appropriate age ranges, equipment needed, key skills, safety considerations, and teaching hints. A good resource for classroom and physical education teachers that capitalizes on students' holiday spirit to enhance healthful living curriculums and personal fitness. ID

DIRECTORY

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These materials are on display for examination in the Media Evaluation Center in Raleigh.

August Hse. - August House, P.O. Box 3223, Little Rock, AR 72203-3223 (800/284-8784)

Boyds Mills Pr. - Boyds Mills Press, 910 Church St., Honesdale, PA 18431 (717/253-1164)

Bradbury Pr. - Bradbury Press, Inc., 866 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022 (800/257-8247)

Clarion Bks. - Clarion Books, 215 Park Ave. S., New York, NY 10003 (800/225-3362)

Crown - Crown Publishers, Inc., 225 Park Ave. S., New York, NY 10003 (800/733-3000)

Delacorte - Delacorte Press, 666 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10103 (800/223-6834)

Dial Bks. Young - Dial Books for Young Readers, 375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014-3657 (800/526-0275)

Dutton - Dutton Children's Books, 375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014-3657 (800/526-0275)

FS&G - Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Inc., 19 Union Sq. W., New York, NY 10003 (800/631-8571)

Greenwillow - Greenwillow Books, 105 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016 (800/843-9389)

HarperCollins - HarperCollins Children's Books, 10 E. 53rd St., New York, NY 10022 (800/242-7737)

Holiday - Holiday House, 425 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10017 (212/688-0085)

Human Kinetics - Human Kinetics Publishers, 1607 N. Market St., P.O. Box 5076, Champaign, IL 61825-5076 (800/747-4457)

Ideals - Ideals Publishing Corp., 565 Marriott Dr., Suite 800, Nashville, TN 97210 (800/327-5113)

Little - Little, Brown and Company, 34 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108 (800/343-9204)

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Macmillan - Macmillan Children's Book Group, 866 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022 (800/257-5755)

Millbrook Pr. - Millbrook Press, Inc., 2 Old New Milford Rd., Brookfield, CT 06804 (203/740-2220)

Modern Curr. - Modern Curriculum Press, Inc., 13900 Prospect Rd., Cleveland, OH 44136 (800/321-3106)

Morrow - William Morrow & Company, Inc., 105 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016 (800/843-9389)

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